

Message Text

SECRET

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-09 NSC-10

SS-15 RSC-01 PRS-01 PA-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

AID-20 L-03 H-02 RSR-01 /090 W
----- 005252

O 220600 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0992

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECDEF PRIORITY

CJCS PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

USSAG PRIORITY

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 3810

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, CB

SUBJECT: PRESS STORIES RE CIVIL WAR IN CAMBODIA

REF: STATE 075870 (NOTAL)

1. CONSIDER BRIEFING FROM WHICH REFERENCED REPORTING
CAME TO HAVE COMPLIED WITH AUTHORITATIVE COUNTRY
TEAM- DEPARTMENT POSITION ON NATURE OF ENEMY.

2. BRIEFING WAS BACKGROUNDER ON CURRENT MILITARY
SITUATION CONDUCTED BY PAO WITH ASSISTANCE ASSISTANT
ARMY ATTACHE. BECAUSE OF ABSENCE OF MOST OF PRESS AND
LIMITED TIME OF ATTACHE, BRIEFING BEGAN WITH
QUESTIONS PUT TO ATTACHE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION
ON FIGHTING IMMEDIATELY AROUND PHNOM PENH, HE INDICATED
OPPOSING INFANTRY TO BE LARGELY KHMER INSURGENT,
BUT SAID THEY CONTINUE TO BE ENCADRED, TRAINED,
SUPPLIED AND SUPPORTED BY VC/ NVA, WHO ALSO GENERALLY
MAN THE CREW- SERVED WEAPON. HE NEITHER SAID NOR
INTIMATED THAT WAR HAS BECOME EXCLUSIVE CONTEST
BETWEEN GUERRILLAS AND GOVERNMENT FORCES. LARGER
SECRET

SECRET

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NATURE OF CONFLICT WAS NOT TOUCHED UPON AT THAT TIME.

3. REST OF PRESS CAME IN AS ATTACHE LEFT. ORIGINAL QUESTIONER READ HIS NOTES TO THEM, AND FROM THEIR QUESTIONS POINT THEY WERE TRYING TO MAKE BECAME EVIDENT. PAO THEREFORE ENLARGED ON ROLE OF VC/ NVA, POINTING OUT THAT SAPPERS CONTINUE TO BE NORTH VIETNAMESE, AS EVIDENCED BY VC INVOLVEMENT IN FIGHTING ALONG MEKONG, RECENT INCIDENTS WHERE FROGMEN HAVE PLANTED CHARGES AGAINST BOATS MOORED IN PHNOM PENH, AND OCTOBER RAID ON CAPITAL. HE POINTED OUT THAT WITHOUT HEAVY LOGISTIC SUPPORT AND WITHOUT HANOI DIRECTION, INSURGENT MOVEMENT WOULD PROBABLY WITHER TO POINT WHERE FANK COULD COPE WITH IT OR IT WOULD EVENTUALLY COME TO TERMS WITH KHMER GOVERNMENT.

4. CONSIDER PRESS TO HAVE ENLARGED ON INITIAL STATEMENT REGARDING FIGHTING IMMEDIATELY AROUND CAPITAL AND TO HAVE TAKEN IT OUT OF CONTEXT OF WHOLE BRIEFING.

5. OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE MILITARY SITUATION HAS NOT RPT NOT CHANGED. AS GIVEN MOST RECENTLY TO SFRC STAFFERS LOWENSTEIN AND MOOSE (PHNOM PENH 3807), IT IS THAT THE KHMER INSURGENTS HAVE BEEN FIGHTING WITH NVA/ VC LOGISTIC, ADVISORY AND INCREASINGLY DIRECT COMBAT SUPPORT.

SWANK

SECRET

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 22 APR 1973
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980128
Subject: PRESS STORIES RE CIVIL WAR IN CAMBODIA
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CB
To: EA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO CINCPAC
DOD
MULTIPLE
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Type: TE
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